THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Wednesday, 16th July 1952.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Government Estate, Mount Road, Madras, at half past ten of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Amount of subsistence loan allotted to Punganur taluk.

* 92 Q.—SRI G. C. KONDAIAH : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state whether, while the applications for subsistence loans in Punganur taluk, Chittoor district, number 15,000, the money allotted for the entire taluk for the purpose is only Rs. 15,000?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" The amount allotted up to 31st July 1952 is Rs. 15,000. The number of applications for subsistence loans received up to 28th June 1952 is 14,126. The number disposed of is 1,177. The Collector has already been authorized to spend over and above the allotment, pending Budget sanction."

SRI B. KRISHNAMOORTHY ROW :—" Especially in zamindari areas, pattas are not transferred in proper time and Punganur taluk is a zamindari area. Most of the applications have been rejected by the authorities on the ground that the patta of the lands offered as security is not in the name of the applicant. Will the Government be pleased to make some special provision in respect of zamindari areas, especially now when famine conditions are prevailing? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Instructions have been given that loans could be granted on securities other than land in cases where pattas for the land have not been issued to the applicants."

SRI P. VENKATASUBBAYYA :—" May I know whether the Government have issued orders to the effect that the subsistence loan will be disbursed 50 per cent in kind and 50 per cent in cash and that the 50 per cent in kind should be in the shape of milo? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Yes, Sir."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" May I know the principle on which subsistence loans are given, whether the Government are willing to give them to people who do not have anything to give in writing to the Government by way of security for the loans and to people who own no lands but who have taken lands on lease for cultivation? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :— "Something is necessary to be given in writing. We cannot avoid that, but we can advance loans on securities other than landed property."

SRI P. GOPALAKRISHNA REDDI :—" Is there any order to the effect that subsistence loans can be given only to those who pay a land revenue of Rs. 10 and below? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :— " There is no such hard and fast rule."

SRI C. V. K. RAO :—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to tell us whether the applicants whose applications are pending will be granted subsistence loans and, if so, within what period? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" The very large number of applications is accounted for by the activities of certain kindly persons. The Government will try as far as possible to meet all the demands."

SRI T. POTHA RAJU :—" Have the Government authorized the District Collectors to provide more funds for the grant of agricultural improvement loans, if the funds allotted so far are not sufficient to meet the demand from the ryots? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :— " Collectors are given complete discretion to meet all the reasonable demands of the ryots."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" Sir, the Hon. Minister was pleased to say that the large number of applications was accounted for by the activities of some kindly persons. Is it his opinion that many people are prosperous and that they are applying for subsistence loans only as a matter of fun? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" No, Sir, I have not talked of any fun. The persons to whom the cap fits may wear it."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that the holders of inam lands are not admitted to this concession and, if so, what is the reason for it? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" I will examine that aspect of the question."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" The Hon. Minister says that the persons, to whom the cap fits, may wear it. I would ask Hon. Ministers not to use such language. I would request particularly the Hon. Revenue Minister to be serious in answering an important question relating to the poor people. May I ask him to change his frame of mind and issue instructions to the authorities to be liberal in the grant of subsistence loans? "

THE HON.. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" I took the Leader of the Opposition to be a humorous gentleman. I do not know why he has ceased to be humorous on this occasion."

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SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—" May I know on what basis subsistence loans are granted? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" The Government take into account the need of the applicant and the probability of repayment."

SRI M. JAGANNATHAN :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister the maximum amount of subsistence loan that is given to an individual? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :— " Rs. 200."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government consider the present situation to be very serious and whether they are willing to increase the allotment to each place for the grant of subsistence loans? To expedite the disposal of applications, will the Government be pleased to supply jeeps to the Revenue Inspectors to enable them to visit all the villages within their jurisdiction for enquiring into the creditworthiness of the applicants for the grant of loans, as otherwise they may not be able to visit all the places in time? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :— " I cannot go into the question of jeeps here. But the suggestion of the hon. Member will be earnestly considered."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that several applications for subsistence loans from Chingleput are pending in the Chingleput Collector's Office, because some of the applicants are not in a position to grease the palms of the lower officials? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :— " It may be that some applications are pending. My hon. Friend can do useful work by seeing that the palms do not get very itchy."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Taking a clue from the Hon. Minister himself, I approached the Collector, Deputy Collector, Tahsildar and all the rest of the hierarchy down to the Revenue Inspector. But nothing happened. More than 600 applications are pending with the Collector of Chingleput, and most of the applicants are very poor people. At least after this question is put, will the Hon. Minister see that the applications are disposed of as quickly as possible? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Yes, Sir. I will take the suggestion and do whatever I can do."

SRI G. LATCHANNA :—" Is it a fact that hundreds of loan applications, which were scrutinized and recommended by the authorities concerned, are pending in Srikakulam district for want of order of allotment of funds from the Revenue Board? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :— " I will do what all I can to expedite the disposal of the applications."

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SRI M. DHARMALINGAM :—" Will the Hon. Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to tell us the fundamental rules and other conditions which have to be fulfilled to become eligible for subsistence loans?"

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" The need of the applicant, the security offered and the probability of repayment are taken into consideration."

SRI C. PULLA REDDI :—" Is it a fact that the funds allotted for the Kurnool district have already been disbursed and that the Collector has asked the Government for an additional allotment of Rs. 5 lakhs in view of the large number of applications pending there? What action have the Government taken on the Collector's request?"

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" As far as Kurnool district is concerned, the question of more allotment is under consideration. If I remember aright, some amounts have already been ordered to be disbursed."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" As the peasants have lost most of the cattle, will the Government help them by giving loans for the purchase of cattle?"

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" The question relates to the subsistence of ryots and not the subsistence of cattle."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" My question has not been answered. It is being by-passed."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member may put a separate question."

Damages for forcible procurement of paddy.

* 93 *Q.*—SRI P. RANGASWAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to a judgment, dated 28th April 1952, passed by the Principal Subordinate Judge, Tiruchirappalli, in favour of a leading advocate there, awarding damages against the State, for procuring his paddy forcibly and illegally; and

(*b*) whether any action was taken against the officials responsible for illegal procurement?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*) The Government are examining the question whether an appeal might be preferred against the judgment. The question of taking any action against the procuring officials does not arise at present."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" Sir, why do the Government think that the question of taking any action against the procurement officials does not arise at present?"